

**Abstract**

A method of encoding a frame in a communication network using a plurality of codec modes, wherein the frame encoded by each codec mode is  
5 represented by a plurality of parameters. The method comprising at least one stage and wherein said at least one stage comprises the steps of selecting from a plurality of groups of codec modes one group, wherein each group comprises at least one codec mode and is arranged to have a common parameter characteristic. The method further comprising encoding the frame  
10 with one of the codec modes from the selected group in dependence on said common parameter characteristic.

(Figure 1)

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